

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
26<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2010 - PUBLIC**

A Special Meeting of the Ramsey Town Commissioners was held in the Boardroom of the Town Hall, Ramsey, on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2010, at 7.00 p.m.

Present: All Members were present.

The Town Clerk was in attendance.

The Board initially sat in private – the Chairman determined that the following items be recorded within public business.

**(2010/11:055) Civic functions**

The Town Clerk drew Members' attention to the Battle of the Atlantic Memorial Service to be held on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2010, and the Douglas Town Civic Service to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2010. The Chairman asked that his apologies be presented for both events as he would be off-island, Madam Deputy Chairman to attend if available.

**(2010/11:056) Former Albert Road School Premises**

The Town Clerk provided a verbal report on discussions held with Mr. David Millar, Dalrymple Associates, who had been appointed by Government to review the various projects anticipated for sites within the "Ramsey Triangle" including the Plaza/MER site, Albert Road School, Mayfield and Close Woirrey. Mr. Millar had also been appointed as consultant in respect of the regeneration project. Members noted that at the May meeting the Commission had agreed in principle to the appointment of the Design Team for the housing schemes projected for sites.

The Town Clerk reported that Mr. Millar had outlined the various schemes anticipated and indicated that a key aspect of any of the projects, and of the aspirations already evident from the regeneration responses, was the matter of car parking. Members noted that any proposals for the Plaza Site or Market Square would require identification of alternative parking provision, and that should either scheme be promoted, delays may occur until parking could be addressed.

The matter had been discussed with the Capital Projects Supervisor, Treasury, and a proposal made that the early demolition of the former Albert Road School, which had now been empty and unused for almost 2 years, might facilitate the creation of ground level parking, and if necessary permit the continued use of the site by the Farmers Market pending alternative arrangements being made, and could facilitate the early progress of schemes proposed including, should approvals be received, sheltered and public sector housing and a multi storey car-park.

The former school premises were retained within Department of Education ownership however no funding is identified within governments capital programme for



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**(2010/11:056) Former Albert Road School Premises Continued:**

demolition of the premises, these costs would be contained within the local authority housing capital programme and accessible therefore only to either the Commission or the Northern Local Authorities Housing Committee, as clients for the projected housing developments.

The Commission had therefore been asked to consider whether it would be prepared to act as client for the demolition of the former school premises, at this time, with funding to be provided from the local authority housing capital programme, through the housing deficiency arrangements. It was noted that demolition could only proceed with the agreement of the Department of Education as landowner, Department of Infrastructure in relation to petitions and the Treasury in relation to the Government capital programme.

**Resolved:** that Ramsey Town Commissioners would if requested progress a scheme for demolition of the former Albert Road School, as an enabling scheme for the future development on this site.

Mr. W. G. Young asked that his vote against be recorded.

**Attendance:** Mr. W G Young left the meeting due to another engagement.

**(2010/11:057) Bowring Road Reconstruction Scheme:**

The Chairman outlined discussions held at the Ramsey Chamber of Commerce meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2010, regarding the reconstruction of Bowring Road, and information provided by Mr. G Robinson, Director of Works, Department of Infrastructure at that meeting.

The Director of Works had indicated to the Chamber meeting that the reconstruction works would require a road closure of 24 weeks, running for the full length of the road from its junction with North Shore Road to its junction with Jurby Road, as a result of the requirement to renew all utility services beneath the carriageway. Access would be restricted during the course of works. Prior to commencement an Order was being served on the owner of a St Olave's House to undertake repairs to the boundary wall.

The Town Clerk advised that the information conflicted with the understanding of the scheme which had resulted from earlier meetings, in November and December 2009, with representatives of Design Division of then Department of Transport. It had been understood that the intention was that access would be maintained to properties for deliveries and service vehicles and that the scheme would be run in three phases, between North Shore Road and Windsor Road, Windsor Road and Coburg Road, and Coburg Road and Jurby Road over a period of approximately 12 weeks.

**Resolved:** The Town Clerk was requested to issue an invitation to the Department to attend a public meeting, at a suitable venue, at which the proposals could be presented to residents and the Commission, and to report further.

The meeting ended at 8:00 p.m.

Chairman. 